

Applicant(s): Callon, et al.
U. S. Serial No.: 09/113,491

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Moy (U.S. Patent No. 6,031,817). Claims 2-12, 14, 20-22, 27-31 and 33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Endo, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,624). Claims 15-19, 34 and 39-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Endo, et al. in view of Moy. In view of the amendments to the claims, the rejections are respectfully traversed, and reconsideration of the rejections is requested.

Claims 23-26 and 35-38 have been objected to as being dependant upon rejected base claims, but would allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, independent claim 2 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 23, and independent claim 27 has be amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 35. Claims 23 and 35 have been cancelled. Furthermore, claims 1 and 39-50 have been cancelled. Therefore, it is believed that all of the rejected claims that remain pending in the application, i.e., claims 2-22, 24-34, and 36-38, are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejections of the claims is requested.

New independent claims 51 and 74 are dependent claims 24 and 36, respectively, rewritten in independent form. New independent claims 84 and 106 are dependent claims 25 and 37, respectively, rewritten in independent form. New independent claims 115 and 136 are dependent claims 26 and 38, respectively, rewritten in independent form. These new independent claims are therefore believed to be allowable. All of the new dependent claims incorporate one of these allowable independent claims. Therefore, it is believed that all of the new claims (claims 51-143) are also in condition for allowance.


Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

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In view of the amendments to the claims and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all claims pending in the application (claims 2-22, 24-34, 36-38 and 51-143) are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully solicited. If a telephone conference will expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims

Claims 1, 23, 35 and 39-50 have been canceled.

The claims have been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) A method of recovering from failures on a network having a plurality of nodes coupled by links over which data can be transferred between the nodes, each of a plurality of nodes storing information that associates links out of the node with destination nodes to which data can be transferred such that the node can forward data out of the node over a link to a next successive node toward an associated destination node, said method comprising:
 - for at least one of the nodes, generating and storing an alternate output route out of the node such that, in the event that data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, the at least one of the nodes can forward the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node; and
 - after generating and storing the alternate output route, if data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node;

wherein the network comprises at least a portion of a wide-area network.
27. (Amended) An apparatus for recovering from failures on a network having a plurality of nodes coupled by links over which data can be transferred between the nodes, each of a

plurality of nodes storing information that associates links out of the node with destination nodes to which data can be transferred such that the node can forward data out of the node over a link to a next successive node toward an associated destination node, said apparatus comprising:

means for generating and storing, for at least one of the nodes, an alternate output route out of the node such that, in the event that data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, the at least one of the nodes can forward the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node; and

means for forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node after generating and storing the alternate output route, if data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node;

wherein the network comprises at least a portion of a wide-area network.

The following new claims have been added.

51. (New) A method of recovering from failures on a network having a plurality of nodes coupled by links over which data can be transferred between the nodes, each of a plurality of nodes storing information that associates links out of the node with destination nodes to which data can be transferred such that the node can forward data out of the node over a link to a next successive node toward an associated destination node, said method comprising:

for at least one of the nodes, generating and storing an alternate output route out of the node such that, in the event that data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, the at least one of the nodes can forward the data over the alternate

output route toward the destination node; and

after generating and storing the alternate output route, if data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node;

wherein the network comprises at least a portion of the Internet.

52. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the alternate output route is a connectionless route.
53. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the alternate output route defines an association between the next successive node and an alternate link out of the at least one of the nodes such that data intended to be forwarded to the next successive node can be forwarded over the alternate link.
54. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
55. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass the next successive node.
56. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass a failed link out of the at least one node.
57. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
58. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path

- through the at least one node to bypass the next successive node.
59. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass a failed link out of the at least one node.
60. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node before other nodes on the network receive information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
61. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a link failure.
62. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a node failure.
63. (New) The method of claim 51 further comprising, after forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node, providing to other nodes on the network information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
64. (New) The method of claim 63 wherein the information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node includes a time at which nodes receiving the information should perform a recovery operation such that recovery operations at a plurality of nodes on the network are synchronized.
65. (New) The method of claim 63 wherein the information initiates a recovery operation at at least one updating node on the network.

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66. (New) The method of claim 65 wherein the recovery operation comprises updating a routing table for the at least one updating node.
67. (New) The method of claim 65 wherein the recovery operation comprises updating a virtual circuit route that includes the at least one updating node.
68. (New) The method of claim 65 wherein recovery operations at a plurality of updating nodes are synchronized.
69. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein at least one node of the network is capable of operating in both a connectionless environment and a connection-oriented environment.
70. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein at least a portion of the network operates in a connectionless configuration.
71. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein at least a portion of the network operates in a connection-oriented configuration.
72. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an intranet.
73. (New) The method of claim 51 wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an extranet.
74. (New) An apparatus for recovering from failures on a network having a plurality of nodes coupled by links over which data can be transferred between the nodes, each of a plurality of nodes storing information that associates links out of the node with destination nodes to which data can be transferred such that the node can forward data out

of the node over a link to a next successive node toward an associated destination node, said apparatus comprising:

means for generating and storing, for at least one of the nodes, an alternate output route out of the node such that, in the event that data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, the at least one of the nodes can forward the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node; and

means for forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node after generating and storing the alternate output route, if data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node;

wherein the network comprises at least a portion of the Internet.

75. (New) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein the alternate output route is a connectionless route.
76. (New) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
77. (New) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node before other nodes on the network receive information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
78. (New) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a link failure.
79. (New) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next

successive node over the link because of a node failure.

80. (New) The apparatus of claim 74 further comprising, means for providing to other nodes on the network after data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node, information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
81. (New) The apparatus of claim 80 wherein the information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node includes a time at which nodes receiving the information should perform a recovery operation such that recovery operations at a plurality of nodes on the network are synchronized.
82. (New) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an intranet.
83. (New) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an extranet.
84. (New) A method of recovering from failures on a network having a plurality of nodes coupled by links over which data can be transferred between the nodes, each of a plurality of nodes storing information that associates links out of the node with destination nodes to which data can be transferred such that the node can forward data out of the node over a link to a next successive node toward an associated destination node, said method comprising:
- for at least one of the nodes, generating and storing an alternate output route out of the node such that, in the event that data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, the at least one of the nodes can forward the data over the alternate

output route toward the destination node; and

after generating and storing the alternate output route, if data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node;

wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an intranet.

85. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the alternate output route is a connectionless route.
86. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the alternate output route defines an association between the next successive node and an alternate link out of the at least one of the nodes such that data intended to be forwarded to the next successive node can be forwarded over the alternate link.
87. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
88. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass the next successive node.
89. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass a failed link out of the at least one node.
90. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
91. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path

- through the at least one node to bypass the next successive node.
92. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass a failed link out of the at least one node.
93. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node before other nodes on the network receive information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
94. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a link failure.
95. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a node failure.
96. (New) The method of claim 84 further comprising, after forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node, providing to other nodes on the network information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
97. (New) The method of claim 96 wherein the information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node includes a time at which nodes receiving the information should perform a recovery operation such that recovery operations at a plurality of nodes on the network are synchronized.
98. (New) The method of claim 96 wherein the information initiates a recovery operation at at least one updating node on the network.

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99. (New) The method of claim 98 wherein the recovery operation comprises updating a routing table for the at least one updating node.
100. (New) The method of claim 98 wherein the recovery operation comprises updating a virtual circuit route that includes the at least one updating node.
101. (New) The method of claim 98 wherein recovery operations at a plurality of updating nodes are synchronized.
102. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein at least one node of the network is capable of operating in both a connectionless environment and a connection-oriented environment.
103. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein at least a portion of the network operates in a connectionless configuration.
104. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein at least a portion of the network operates in a connection-oriented configuration.
105. (New) The method of claim 84 wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an extranet.
106. (New) An apparatus for recovering from failures on a network having a plurality of nodes coupled by links over which data can be transferred between the nodes, each of a plurality of nodes storing information that associates links out of the node with destination nodes to which data can be transferred such that the node can forward data out of the node over a link to a next successive node toward an associated destination node, said apparatus comprising:
 - means for generating and storing, for at least one of the nodes, an alternate output

route out of the node such that, in the event that data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, the at least one of the nodes can forward the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node; and

means for forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node after generating and storing the alternate output route, if data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node;

wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an intranet.

107. (New) The apparatus of claim 106 wherein the alternate output route is a connectionless route.
108. (New) The apparatus of claim 106 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
109. (New) The apparatus of claim 106 wherein data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node before other nodes on the network receive information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
110. (New) The apparatus of claim 106 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a link failure.
111. (New) The apparatus of claim 106 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a node failure.
112. (New) The apparatus of claim 106 further comprising, means for providing to other

nodes on the network after data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node, information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.

113. (New) The apparatus of claim 112 wherein the information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node includes a time at which nodes receiving the information should perform a recovery operation such that recovery operations at a plurality of nodes on the network are synchronized.
114. (New) The apparatus of claim 106 wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an extranet.
115. (New) A method of recovering from failures on a network having a plurality of nodes coupled by links over which data can be transferred between the nodes, each of a plurality of nodes storing information that associates links out of the node with destination nodes to which data can be transferred such that the node can forward data out of the node over a link to a next successive node toward an associated destination node, said method comprising:
 - for at least one of the nodes, generating and storing an alternate output route out of the node such that, in the event that data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, the at least one of the nodes can forward the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node; and
 - after generating and storing the alternate output route, if data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node;
 - wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an extranet.

116. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein the alternate output route is a connectionless route.
117. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein the alternate output route defines an association between the next successive node and an alternate link out of the at least one of the nodes such that data intended to be forwarded to the next successive node can be forwarded over the alternate link.
118. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
119. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass the next successive node.
120. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass a failed link out of the at least one node.
121. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
122. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass the next successive node.
123. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein the alternate output route is a bypass path through the at least one node to bypass a failed link out of the at least one node.
124. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node before other nodes on the network receive information

that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.

125. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a link failure.
126. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a node failure.
127. (New) The method of claim 115 further comprising, after forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node, providing to other nodes on the network information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
128. (New) The method of claim 127 wherein the information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node includes a time at which nodes receiving the information should perform a recovery operation such that recovery operations at a plurality of nodes on the network are synchronized.
129. (New) The method of claim 127 wherein the information initiates a recovery operation at at least one updating node on the network.
130. (New) The method of claim 129 wherein the recovery operation comprises updating a routing table for the at least one updating node.
131. (New) The method of claim 129 wherein the recovery operation comprises updating a virtual circuit route that includes the at least one updating node.

132. (New) The method of claim 129 wherein recovery operations at a plurality of updating nodes are synchronized.
133. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein at least one node of the network is capable of operating in both a connectionless environment and a connection-oriented environment.
134. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein at least a portion of the network operates in a connectionless configuration.
135. (New) The method of claim 115 wherein at least a portion of the network operates in a connection-oriented configuration.
136. (New) An apparatus for recovering from failures on a network having a plurality of nodes coupled by links over which data can be transferred between the nodes, each of a plurality of nodes storing information that associates links out of the node with destination nodes to which data can be transferred such that the node can forward data out of the node over a link to a next successive node toward an associated destination node, said apparatus comprising:
- means for generating and storing, for at least one of the nodes, an alternate output route out of the node such that, in the event that data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node, the at least one of the nodes can forward the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node; and
 - means for forwarding the data over the alternate output route toward the destination node after generating and storing the alternate output route, if data to be transferred toward a destination node cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link associated with the destination node;
- wherein the network comprises at least a portion of an extranet.

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137. (New) The apparatus of claim 136 wherein the alternate output route is a connectionless route.
138. (New) The apparatus of claim 136 wherein the alternate output route is a connection-oriented route.
139. (New) The apparatus of claim 136 wherein data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node before other nodes on the network receive information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
140. (New) The apparatus of claim 136 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a link failure.
141. (New) The apparatus of claim 136 wherein data cannot be forwarded to the next successive node over the link because of a node failure.
142. (New) The apparatus of claim 136 further comprising, means for providing to other nodes on the network after data are forwarded over the alternate output route toward the destination node, information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node.
143. (New) The apparatus of claim 142 wherein the information that data cannot be transferred between the at least one of the nodes and the next successive node includes a time at which nodes receiving the information should perform a recovery operation such that recovery operations at a plurality of nodes on the network are synchronized.